

FIFA®

FUTSAL

Laws of the Game
2022-23



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Approved by the Bureau of the FIFA Council

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Effective from 12 August 2022

OFFSIDE

Law 11

FIFA®

There is no offside in futsal.



FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Law 12



FIFA®

Direct and indirect free kicks and penalty kicks can only be awarded for offences committed when the ball is in play.

1 Direct free kick

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referees to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- charges
- jumps at
- kicks or attempts to kick
- pushes
- strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
- tackles or challenges
- trips or attempts to trip

If an offence involves contact, it is penalised with a direct free kick or penalty kick:

- “Careless” is when a player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making a challenge or acts without precaution. No disciplinary sanction is needed.
- “Reckless” is when a player acts with disregard to the danger to, or consequences for, an opponent and must be cautioned.
- “Using excessive force” is when a player exceeds the necessary use of force and/or endangers the safety of an opponent and must be sent off.

A direct free kick is also awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:

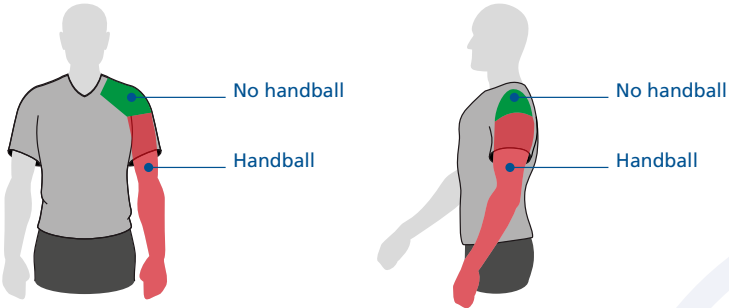
- a handball offence that is deliberate and/or involves the hand/arm making the player’s body unnaturally bigger (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holding an opponent
- impeding an opponent with contact
- biting or spitting at someone on the team lists or a match official
- throwing/kicking an object at the ball, an opponent or a match official, making contact with the ball with a held object, or deliberately moving the goal such that the goal makes contact with the ball

All of the offences listed in this section count as accumulated fouls.



Handling the ball

For the purposes of determining handball offences, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.



Not every touch of a player's hand/arm with the ball is an offence.

It is a direct-free-kick offence if a player:

- deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball.
- touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. A player is considered to have made their body unnaturally bigger when the position of their hand/arm is not a consequence of, or justifiable by, the player's body movement for that specific situation. By having their hand/arm in such a position, the player takes a risk of their hand/arm being hit by the ball and being penalised.

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted to do so, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction. However, if the offence is playing the ball a second time (with or without the hand/arm) after a restart before it touches another player, the goalkeeper must be sanctioned if the offence stops a promising attack or denies an opponent or the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity.

2 Indirect free kick

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner (as defined below);
- impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made;
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s) or other verbal offences;
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing or throwing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing or throwing it;
- initiates a deliberate trick for the ball to be passed (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee, etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands; the goalkeeper is penalised if responsible for initiating the deliberate trick;
- scores in the opponents' goal:
 - directly from their hand/arm (including by the goalkeeper), provided that it is accidental and the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger;
 - immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, provided that the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger.

If a player does not score immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, play should be continued, provided that the hand/arm did not make the player's body unnaturally bigger.

- commits any other offence not mentioned in the Futsal Laws for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player.

An indirect free kick is also awarded if a goalkeeper commits any of the following offences:

- controls the ball with the hands, arms or feet in their own half of the pitch for more than four seconds;
- after having played the ball in controlled possession, wherever on the pitch, touches it again in their own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately played to the goalkeeper by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it; there is no disciplinary sanction;
- touches the ball with the hands or arms inside their own penalty area after it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate (including from a kick-in);
- where this is outlawed by domestic rules for youth, veterans', disability and/or grassroots futsal, throws the ball directly over the halfway line (the free kick is to be taken from the place where the ball crossed the halfway line).



A goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when:

- the ball is between the hands or between the hand and any surface (e.g. the pitch, own body) or when touching it with any part of the hands or arms;
- holding the ball in an outstretched open hand;
- bouncing it on the pitch or throwing it in the air.

Playing in a dangerous manner

Playing in a dangerous manner is any action that, while trying to play the ball, threatens injury to someone (including the players themselves), and includes preventing a nearby opponent from playing the ball for fear of injury.

A scissors or bicycle kick is permissible provided that it is not dangerous to an opponent.

Impeding the progress of an opponent without contact

Impeding the progress of an opponent means moving into the opponent's path to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction when the ball is not within playing distance of either player.

All players have a right to their position on the pitch; being in the way of an opponent is not the same as moving into the way of an opponent.

A player may shield the ball by taking a position between an opponent and the ball if the ball is within playing distance and the opponent is not held off with the arms or body. If the ball is within playing distance, the player may be fairly charged by an opponent.

Blocking an opponent

Blocking an opponent can be considered a legitimate tactic in futsal, as long as the player blocking the opponent is stationary at the time of any contact and does not deliberately cause contact by moving or extending the body into the opponent's path, and the opponent has the opportunity to evade the block. A block can be performed against an opponent who may or may not have the ball.

3 Disciplinary action

The referees have the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the pitch for the pre-match inspection until leaving the pitch after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).

If, before entering the pitch at the start of the match, a player or team official commits a sending-off offence, the referees have the authority to prevent the player or team official from taking part in the match; the referees will report any other misconduct.

If the referees need to caution a named player, substitute or team official before the match starts, they should do so verbally rather than by showing a yellow card, and report it to the appropriate authorities after the match.

If the same person commits another cautionable offence during the match, the referees caution them by showing a yellow card. However, this does not count as a sending-off offence, as it is the first yellow card shown to the offending person during the match.

A player or team official who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the pitch, against any other person or the Futsal Laws of the Game, is disciplined according to the offence.

The yellow card communicates a caution and the red card communicates a sending-off.

Only a player, substitute or team official may be shown the red or yellow card.

Players and substitutes

Delaying the restart of play to show a card

Once the referees have decided to caution or send off a player, play must not be restarted until the sanction has been administered, unless the non-offending team takes a quick free kick, has a clear goalscoring opportunity and the referees have not started the disciplinary sanction procedure. The sanction is administered at the next stoppage; if the offence was denying the opposing team an obvious goalscoring opportunity, the player is cautioned; if the offence interfered with or stopped a promising attack, the player is not cautioned.

Advantage

If the referees apply the advantage for an offence for which a caution/sending-off would have been issued had play been stopped, this caution/sending-off must be issued when the ball is next out of play. However, if the offence was denying the opposing team an obvious goalscoring opportunity, the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour; if the offence was interfering with or stopping a promising attack, the player is not cautioned.

The advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct, a second cautionable offence or a sixth (or subsequent) accumulated foul, unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal. The referees must send off the player when the ball is next out of play, but if the player plays the ball or challenges/interferes with an opponent, the referees will stop play, send off the player and restart with an indirect free kick, unless the player committed a more serious offence.

If the advantage is applied and a second yellow card or red card is given after a goal is scored, the sanctioned team continues with the same number of players, with a substitute replacing the sent-off player. If a goal is not scored, the team continues with one fewer player.

If a defending-team player starts holding an attacking-team player outside the penalty area and continues to do so inside the penalty area, the referees must award a penalty kick.



Cautionable offences

A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play;
- dissent by word or action;
- entering or leaving the pitch without one of the referees' permission or in contravention of the substitution procedure;
- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a dropped ball, corner kick, free kick or kick-in;
- persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes "persistent");
- unsporting behaviour.

A substitute is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play;
- dissent by word or action;
- entering the pitch in contravention of the substitution procedure;
- unsporting behaviour.

Where two separate cautionable offences are committed (even in close proximity), they should result in two cautions – for example, if a player does not enter the pitch via the substitution zone and commits a reckless tackle or stops a promising attack with a foul/handball, etc.

Cautions for unsporting behaviour

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour, including if a player:

- attempts to deceive the referees, e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation);
- commits a direct-free-kick offence in a reckless manner;
- handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack;
- commits any other offence which interferes with or stops a promising attack, except where the referees award a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball;

- denies an opponent an obvious goalscoring opportunity through an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referees award a penalty kick;
- handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal;
- stops a ball going into the goal by a handball offence when the goal is guarded by the goalkeeper;
- makes unauthorised marks on the pitch;
- plays the ball when leaving the pitch after being ordered to leave;
- shows a lack of respect for the game;
- initiates a deliberate trick for the ball to be passed (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee, etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands; the goalkeeper is cautioned if responsible for initiating the deliberate trick;
- verbally distracts an opponent during play;
- deliberately moves or overturns the goal (without denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity).

Celebration of a goal

Players can celebrate when a goal is scored, but the celebration must not be excessive; choreographed celebrations are not encouraged and must not cause excessive time-wasting.

Leaving the pitch to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence but players should return as soon as possible.

A player must be cautioned, even if the goal is disallowed, for:

- approaching the spectators in a manner which causes safety and/or security issues;
- acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way;
- covering the head or face with a mask or other similar item;
- removing the shirt or covering the head with the shirt.



Sending-off offences

A player or substitute who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their own penalty area) or by deliberately moving or overturning the goal (such as when this prevents the ball from passing over the goal line)
- denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity (provided that the goal is unguarded by the defending goalkeeper) to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal through an offence punishable with a free kick (unless as outlined below)
- serious foul play
- biting or spitting at someone
- violent conduct
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s)
- receiving a second caution in the same match

A player or substitute who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the pitch and the technical area.

Denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity (DOGSO)

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence, the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area).

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies the opponent an obvious goalscoring opportunity and the referees award a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball, etc.), the offending player must be sent off.

A player, sent-off player, substitute or team official who enters the pitch without the required permission from one of the referees or in violation of the substitution procedure and interferes with play, committing an offence by denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity, is guilty of a sending-off offence.

The following must be considered when determining whether it is a DOGSO situation:

- the distance between the offence and the goal
- the general direction of the play
- the likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball
- the location and number of defending outfield players, as well as the goalkeeper
- whether or not the goal is “unguarded”

If a goalkeeper denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence outside the penalty area when their goal is unguarded or only guarded by an outfield defending-team player behind the goalkeeper, the goalkeeper is considered guilty of a sending-off offence.

If the number of attacking-team players is the same as or greater than the number of defending-team players when the goal is not guarded by the goalkeeper and other criteria for DOGSO are met, this can be considered a DOGSO situation.

If a defending-team player commits an offence without attempting to play the ball (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball, etc.) and the number of attacking players is greater than the number of defending players, this must be considered a DOGSO situation, even if the goal is guarded by the goalkeeper.

If a substitute, sent-off player or team official denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence or an offence punishable with a free kick, the number of players is reduced in accordance with Law 3.

Serious foul play

A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Any player who lunges at an opponent with excessive force when challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind, whether using one or both legs, or who endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.



Violent conduct

Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.

Violent conduct may occur either on the pitch or outside its boundaries, whether the ball is in play or not.

The advantage should not be applied in situations involving violent conduct unless there is a clear subsequent opportunity to score a goal. In such a case, the referees must send off the player guilty of violent conduct when the ball is next out of play.

The referees are reminded that violent conduct often leads to mass confrontation between players; therefore, they must try to avert this with strict intervention.

A player or substitute who is guilty of violent conduct must be sent off.

Team officials

Where an offence is committed by a team official and the offender cannot be identified, the senior team coach present in the technical area will receive the sanction.

Warning

The following offences should usually result in a warning; repeated or blatant offences should result in a caution or sending-off:

- entering the pitch in a respectful/non-confrontational manner
- failing to cooperate with a match official, e.g. ignoring an instruction/request from an assistant referee
- minor/low-level disagreement (by word or action) with a decision
- occasionally leaving the confines of the technical area without committing another offence

Caution

Cautionable offences by team officials include (but are not limited to):

- clearly/persistently not respecting the confines of their team's technical area
- delaying the restart of play by their team
- deliberately entering the technical area of the opposing team (non-confrontationally)

- dissent by word or action, including:
 - throwing/kicking drinks bottles or other objects
 - action(s) which show(s) a clear lack of respect for the match official(s), e.g. sarcastic clapping
- excessively/persistently gesturing for a red or yellow card
- acting in a provocative or inflammatory manner
- persistent unacceptable behaviour (including repeated warning offences)
- showing a lack of respect for the game

Sending-off

Sending-off offences include (but are not limited to):

- delaying the restart of play by the opposing team, e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player
- deliberately leaving the technical area to:
 - show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a match official
 - act in a provocative or inflammatory manner
- entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner
- deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the pitch
- entering the pitch to:
 - confront a match official (including at half-time and full-time)
 - interfere with play, an opposing player or a match official
- physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards any other person
- receiving a second caution in the same match
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s)
- using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as a result of using electronic or communication equipment
- violent conduct



Offences where an object is thrown/kicked (including the ball)

In all cases, the referees take the appropriate disciplinary action:

- reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour
- using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct

4 Restart of play after fouls and misconduct

If the ball is out of play, play is restarted according to the previous decision.

The following restarts apply if the ball is in play and a player commits a physical offence on the pitch:

- against an opponent – an indirect or direct free kick or penalty kick
- against a team-mate, substitute, sent-off player, team official or match official – a direct free kick or penalty kick

All verbal offences are penalised with an indirect free kick.

If, when the ball is in play:

- a player commits an offence against a match official or an opposing player, substitute, sent-off player or team official off the pitch; or
- a substitute, sent-off player or team official commits an offence against, or interferes with, an opposing player or a match official off the pitch:

play is restarted with a free kick on the nearest boundary-line point to where the offence/interference occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct-free-kick offence and the nearest boundary-line point lies on the part of the goal line that belongs to the offender's penalty area.

- a substitute, sent-off player or team official commits an offence against a substitute, sent-off player or team official of either team, play is restarted with a dropped ball (see Law 8).

Even if a substitute, a sent-off player or a team official commits a direct-free-kick offence, this counts as an accumulated foul against their team.

If an offence is committed off the pitch by a player against a player, substitute or team official of their own team, play is restarted with an indirect free kick on the boundary line closest to where the offence occurred.

If a player makes contact with the ball with an object (a boot, shinguard, etc.) held in the hand, play is restarted with a direct free kick (or penalty kick).

If a player who is on or off the pitch throws or kicks an object (other than the match ball) at an opposing player, or throws or kicks an object (including a ball) at an opposing substitute, sent-off player, team official or a match official or the match ball, play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the person or the ball, or with a penalty kick if this is within the offender's penalty area. If this position is off the pitch, the free kick is taken on the nearest point on the boundary line; a penalty kick is awarded if the closest boundary-line point lies on the part of the goal line that belongs to the offender's penalty area.

If a substitute, sent-off player, player temporarily off the pitch or team official throws or kicks an object onto the pitch and it interferes with play, an opponent or a match official, play is restarted with a direct free kick where the object interfered with play or struck or would have struck the opponent, match official or ball (or with a penalty kick if this is within the offender's penalty area).

If the referees stop play for an offence committed by a player, on or off the pitch, against an outside agent, play is restarted with a dropped ball, unless an indirect free kick is awarded for leaving the pitch without the referees' permission; the indirect free kick is taken from the point on the boundary line where the player left the pitch.



FREE KICKS

Law 13

FIFA®

1 Types of free kick

Direct and indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team of a player, substitute, sent-off player or team official guilty of an offence.

The four-second count must be shown clearly by one of the referees when a direct or indirect free kick is taken.

Indirect-free-kick signal

The referees indicate an indirect free kick by raising one arm above the head; this signal is maintained until the kick has been taken and the ball touches another player or goes out of play.

An indirect free kick must be retaken if either or both of the referees fail(s) to signal that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal.

Ball enters the goal

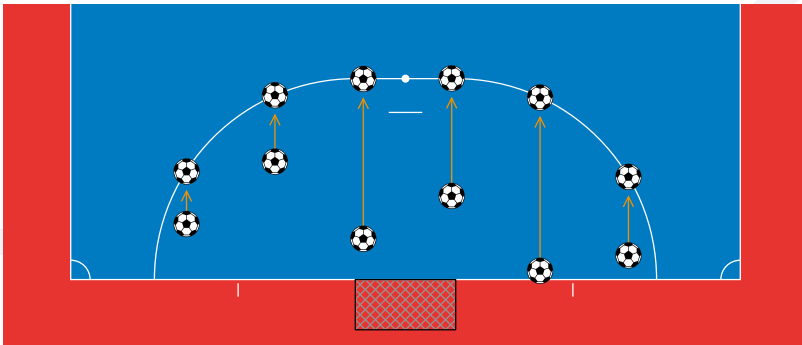
- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded.
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal clearance is awarded to the opponents (unless the indirect-free-kick signal was not made by either or both of the referees).
- If a direct or indirect free kick is kicked directly into the kicker's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.



2 Procedure

All free kicks must be taken:

- within four seconds;
- from the place where the offence occurred, except:
 - free kicks to the defending team in its penalty area, which may be taken from anywhere in that area;
 - indirect free kicks for an offence committed by the defending team inside its own penalty area or for an applicable offence when play was stopped with the ball inside the defending team's penalty area, which are taken from the penalty-area line at the point nearest to the place where the offence was committed or the ball was located, following an imaginary line parallel to the touchline (as illustrated in the image below);



- indirect free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the pitch without permission, which are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped, unless play was stopped with the ball inside the penalty area, in which case the free kick is to be taken from the penalty-area line at the point nearest to the place where the ball was located when play was stopped, following an imaginary line parallel to the touchline (see the image above). However, if a player commits an offence off the pitch (except against an outside agent), play is restarted with a free kick taken from the point on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct-free-kick offence and the closest boundary-line point lies on the part of the goal line that belongs to the offender's penalty area;
- where the Law designates another position.

The ball:

- must be stationary and the kicker must not touch it again until it has touched another player;
- is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

Until the ball is in play, all opponents must remain:

- at least 5m from the ball;
- outside the penalty area for free kicks inside the opponents' penalty area.

Where two or more defending-team players form a "wall", all attacking-team players must remain at least 1m from the "wall" until the ball is in play.

A free kick can be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or with both feet simultaneously.

Feinting to take a free kick is permitted as part of futsal.

If a player, while correctly taking a free kick, deliberately kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referees allow play to continue.

3 Offences and sanctions

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance, the kick is retaken unless the advantage can be applied; notwithstanding, if a player takes a free kick quickly and an opponent who is closer than 5m from the ball intercepts it, the referees allow play to continue. However, an opponent who deliberately prevents a free kick from being taken quickly must be cautioned for delaying the restart of play.

If, when a free kick is taken, an attacking-team player is less than 1m from a "wall" formed by two or more defending-team players, an indirect free kick is awarded to the defending team.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team inside its penalty area, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referees allow play to continue.

If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the free kick is taken, or who enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it is in play, the free kick is retaken.

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker commits a handball offence:

- a direct free kick is awarded;
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area, unless the kicker was the goalkeeper, in which case an indirect free kick is awarded.



If the free kick is not taken within four seconds, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the kick was to be taken, except when a team commits such an offence inside its own penalty area; in that case, the indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team on the penalty-area line at the point nearest to the place where the offence was committed, following an imaginary line parallel to the touchline (see the image in section 2 of this Law).

4 Accumulated fouls

- Accumulated fouls are those penalised with a direct free kick or penalty kick as specified in Law 12.
- The accumulated fouls committed by each team in each period are recorded in the match report.
- The referees may allow play to continue by applying the advantage if the offending team has not previously committed five accumulated fouls and the opposing team is not denied a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity.
- If they apply the advantage, the referees should use the mandatory signals to indicate an accumulated foul to the timekeeper and third referee as soon as the ball is out of play.
- If extra time is played, accumulated fouls from the second period of the match continue to count during extra time.

5 Direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul by each team in each period (DFKSAF)

A direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul is awarded for the sixth accumulated foul and all subsequent such fouls committed by a team in each period. However, if the sixth or subsequent accumulated foul is committed inside the offender's penalty area, a penalty kick is awarded instead.

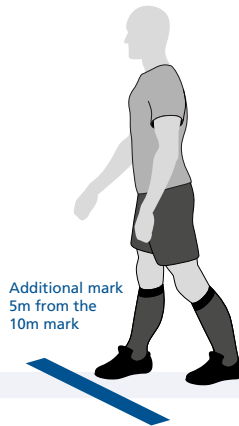
A goal may be scored directly from a DFKSAF and the kicker must attempt to do so.

The defending team's players may not form a "wall" to defend a DFKSAF.

Procedure

- The ball must be stationary on the 10m mark or at the place where the DFKSAF offence was committed (provided that this was in the area between the defending team's goal line and the imaginary line outside the penalty area, 10m from and parallel to the goal line).
- If the DFKSAF offence was committed in this area, the kicker may choose to take the DFKSAF either on the 10m mark or from the place where the foul was committed.
- The goalposts, crossbar and goal net must not be moving.
- The player taking the DFKSAF must be clearly identified.

- The defending goalkeeper must be at least 5m away from the ball until it has been kicked.
- The players, other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper, must be:
 - on the pitch;
 - at least 5m from the ball;*
 - behind the ball;
 - outside the penalty area.



* A player's position at a restart is determined by the position of their feet or any part of their body which is touching the pitch (see Futsal Terms).

- After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, one of the referees signals for the DFKSAF to be taken.
- The player taking the DFKSAF must kick the ball towards the opponents' goal and with the intention of scoring a goal directly; back-heeling is permitted provided the ball moves towards the opponents' goal and it is an attempt to score directly.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves towards the opponents' goal.
- The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.



- If a DFKSAF is awarded when a period is about to end, the period will be considered to have ended when the DFKSAF has been completed. The kick is considered completed when, after the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:
 - the ball stops moving or goes out of play;
 - the ball is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper;
 - the referees stop play for an offence by the kicker or a team-mate of the kicker.

Offences and sanctions

- Once the referees have signalled for a DFKSAF to be taken, the kick must be taken within four seconds. If the kick is not taken within four seconds, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the kick was to be taken.
- If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:
 - the player taking the DFKSAF or a team-mate commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken;
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the referees stop play and restart with an indirect free kick to the opposing team;

except for the following situations, when play will be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team, regardless of whether or not a goal is scored:

 - a DFKSAF is not kicked towards the opponents' goal and with the intention of scoring a goal directly;
 - a team-mate of the identified kicker takes the kick: the referees caution the player who took the kick;
 - the kicker feints to kick the ball after having completed the run-up (feinting in the run-up is permitted): the referees caution the kicker.
 - the defending goalkeeper commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded;
 - if the ball misses the goal or rebounds from the crossbar or goalpost(s), the kick is only retaken if the goalkeeper's offence clearly impacted on the kicker;
 - if the ball is prevented from entering the goal by the goalkeeper, the kick is retaken.

If the goalkeeper's offence results in the kick being retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence in the game; if the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned.

- a team-mate of the defending goalkeeper commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded;
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken; the offender is warned for the first offence in the game. If the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned.
- a player of both teams commits an offence, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); the offenders are warned for the first offence in the game. If the same players commit any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned.
- both the defending goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offence at the same time, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team.

An opponent who obstructs the kicker from moving towards the ball when a DFKSAF is going to be taken must be cautioned, even if the offender was respecting the 5m minimum distance.

- If, after the DFKSAF has been taken:
 - the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player:
 - an indirect free kick (or a direct free kick for a handball offence) is awarded to the opposing team.
 - the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves towards the opponents' goal:
 - the kick is retaken unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent the defending goalkeeper or a defending-team player from playing the ball, in which case the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the interference was by the attacking team.
 - the ball rebounds into the pitch from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts and is then touched by an outside agent:
 - the referees stop play;
 - play is restarted with a dropped ball at the position where the ball touched the outside agent.



Summary table

Outcome of the direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul (DFKSAF)		
Offence	Ball enters goal	Ball does not enter goal
Encroachment by attacking-team player	DFKSAF is retaken	Indirect free kick to defending team
Encroachment by defending-team player	Goal	DFKSAF is retaken and warning for defending-team player; caution for any further offence(s)
Encroachment by defending- and attacking-team player	DFKSAF is retaken	DFKSAF is retaken and warning for offending players; caution for any further offence(s)
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Not saved: DFKSAF is not retaken (unless kicker is clearly impacted) Saved: DFKSAF is retaken and warning for goalkeeper; caution for any further offence(s)
Ball not kicked towards opponents' goal and with intention of scoring directly	Indirect free kick to defending team	Indirect free kick to defending team
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker
Wrong kicker (not identified)	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker
Goalkeeper and kicker commit offence at same time	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker

THE PENALTY KICK

Law 14

FIFA®

A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct-free-kick offence inside their penalty area or off the pitch as part of play as outlined in Law 12.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

1 Procedure

The ball must be stationary on the penalty mark and the goalposts, crossbar and goal net must not be moving.

The player taking the penalty kick must be clearly identified.

The defending goalkeeper must remain on the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts, without touching the goalposts, crossbar or goal net, until the ball has been kicked.

The players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be:

- on the pitch;
- at least 5m from the penalty mark;
- behind the penalty mark;
- outside the penalty area.

After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, one of the referees signals for the penalty kick to be taken.

The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forwards; back-heeling is permitted provided the ball moves forwards.

When the ball is kicked, the defending goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching, in line with or behind the goal line.

The ball is in play when it is kicked forwards and clearly moves.

The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

If a penalty kick is awarded when a period is about to end, the period will be considered to have ended once the penalty kick has been completed. The kick is considered completed when, after the ball is in play, any of the following occurs:

- the ball stops moving or goes out of play;
- the ball is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper;
- the referees stop play for an offence by the kicker or a team-mate of the kicker.

2 Offences and sanctions

Once the referees have signalled for a penalty kick to be taken, the kick must be taken. If it is not taken, one of the referees may take disciplinary action before signalling again for the kick to be taken.

If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:

- the player taking the penalty kick or a team-mate commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken;
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the referees stop play and restart with an indirect free kick to the opposing team;

except for the following situations, when play will be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team, regardless of whether or not a goal is scored:

 - a penalty kick is kicked backwards;
 - a team-mate of the identified kicker takes the kick: the referees caution the player who took the kick;
 - the kicker feints to kick the ball after having completed the run-up (feinting in the run-up is permitted): the referees caution the kicker.
- the defending goalkeeper commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded;
 - if the ball misses the goal or rebounds from the crossbar or goalpost(s), the kick is only retaken if the goalkeeper's offence clearly impacted on the kicker;
 - if the ball is prevented from entering the goal by the goalkeeper, the kick is retaken.

If the goalkeeper's offence results in the kick being retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence in the game; if the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned.

- a team-mate of the defending goalkeeper commits an offence:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded;
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken.
- a player of both teams commits an offence, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting).
- both the defending goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offence at the same time, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team.



An opponent who obstructs the kicker from moving towards the ball when a penalty kick is going to be taken must be cautioned, even if the offender was respecting the 5m minimum distance.

If, after the penalty kick has been taken:

- the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player:
 - an indirect free kick (or a direct free kick for a handball offence) is awarded to the opposing team.
- the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forwards:
 - the kick is retaken unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent the defending goalkeeper or a defending-team player from playing the ball, in which case the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the interference was by the attacking team.
- the ball rebounds into the pitch from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts and is then touched by an outside agent:
 - the referees stop play;
 - play is restarted with a dropped ball at the position where the ball touched the outside agent.

3 Summary table

Outcome of the penalty kick		
Offence	Ball enters goal	Ball does not enter goal
Encroachment by attacking-team player	Penalty is retaken	Indirect free kick to defending team
Encroachment by defending-team player	Goal	Penalty is retaken
Encroachment by defending- and attacking-team player	Penalty is retaken	Penalty is retaken
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Not saved: penalty is not retaken (unless kicker is clearly impacted) Saved: penalty is retaken and warning for goalkeeper; caution for any further offence(s)
Ball kicked backwards	Indirect free kick to defending team	Indirect free kick to defending team
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker
Wrong kicker (not identified)	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker
Goalkeeper and kicker commit offence at same time	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker



FUTSAL TERMS

A

Abandon

To end/terminate a match before the scheduled finish

Action area

Area of the pitch where the ball is and the play is taking place

Accumulated foul

A foul committed by a player that is penalised by a direct free kick or penalty kick; each team's tally is added up, starting from zero, in the first and second periods of the match. If extra time is needed, accumulated fouls from the second period of the match are added to those committed during extra time

Advantage

The referees allow play to continue when an offence has occurred if this benefits the non-offending team

Assessment of injured player

Quick examination of an injury, usually by a medical person, to see if the player requires treatment

Away-goals rule

Method of deciding a match/tie when both teams have scored the same number of goals; goals scored away from home count double

B

Blocking

Action whereby a player takes up or moves into a position to distract an opponent or prevent an opponent from reaching the ball or a particular area of the pitch, but without deliberately causing contact

Brutality

An act which is savage, ruthless or deliberately violent



C

Careless

Any action (usually a tackle or challenge) by a player which shows a lack of attention, consideration or precaution

Caution

Disciplinary sanction which results in a report to a disciplinary authority, indicated by showing a yellow card; two cautions in a match result in a player, substitute or team official being dismissed (sent off)

Challenge

An action when a player competes/contends with an opponent for the ball

Charge (an opponent)

Physical challenge against an opponent, usually using the shoulder and upper arm (which is kept close to the body)

D

Deceive

Act to mislead/trick the referees into giving an incorrect decision/disciplinary sanction which benefits the deceiver and/or their team

Deliberate

An action which the player intended/meant to make; it is not a "reflex" or unintended reaction

Direct free kick

A free kick from which a goal can be scored by kicking the ball directly into the opponents' goal without it having to touch another player

Discretion

Judgement used by referees or other match officials when making a decision

Dissent

Public protest or disagreement (verbal and/or physical) with a match official's decision; punishable with a caution (yellow card)

Distract

To disturb, confuse or draw attention (usually unfairly)

Dropped ball

A "neutral" method of restarting play – the referees drop the ball for one player of the team that last touched the ball; the ball is in play when it touches the ground

E

Electronic performance and tracking system (EPTS)

System which records and analyses data about the physical and physiological performance of a player

Endanger the safety of an opponent

Put an opponent in danger or at risk (of injury)

Excessive force

Using more force/energy than is necessary

Extra time

A method of trying to decide the outcome of a match, involving two equal additional periods of play not exceeding five minutes each

F

Feinting

An action which attempts to confuse an opponent. The Futsal Laws define permitted and "illegal" feinting

Flying goalkeeper

A goalkeeper who (temporarily) plays as an outfield player, often stationed in the opponents' half and leaving the goal unguarded. This role may be performed by the team's regular goalkeeper or another player brought on to replace the usual goalkeeper specifically for this purpose

H

Holding offence

A holding offence occurs only when a player's contact with an opponent's body or equipment impedes the opponent's movement

I

Impede

To delay, block or prevent an opponent's action or movement

Indirect free kick

A free kick from which a goal can only be scored if another player (of any team) touches the ball after it has been kicked



Influence area

Area of the pitch where the ball is not being played, but a dispute between players may occur

Intercept

To prevent a ball reaching its intended destination

K**Kick**

The ball is kicked when a player makes contact with it using the foot and/or the ankle and it clearly moves

Kicks from the penalty mark

Method of deciding the result of a match by each team alternately taking kicks until one team has scored one more goal and both teams have taken the same number of kicks (unless during the first five kicks for each team, one team could not equal the other team's score even if it scored from all its remaining kicks)

N**Negligible**

Insignificant, minimal

O**Offence**

An action which breaks/violates the Futsal Laws of the Game

Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s)

Behaviour (verbal and/or non-verbal) which is rude, hurtful or disrespectful: punishable with a sending-off (red card)

Outside agent

Any person who is not a match official or on the team list (players, substitutes and team officials) or any animal, object, structure, etc.

P

Penalise

To punish, usually by stopping play and awarding a free kick or penalty kick to the opposing team

Pitch

The playing area confined by the touchlines and goal lines, as well as goal nets, where used

Play

Action by a player which makes contact with the ball

Playing distance

Distance to the ball which allows a player to touch the ball by extending the foot/ leg or jumping or, for goalkeepers, jumping with arms extended. The distance depends on the physical size of the player

Playing time

The time during which the ball is in play, as timed using the chronometer; the timekeeper stops the chronometer when the ball goes out of play or play is stopped for any other reason

Q

Quick free kick

A free kick taken (with either referee's permission) very quickly after play was stopped

R

Reckless

Any action (usually a tackle or challenge) by a player which disregards (ignores) the danger to, or consequences for, the opponent

Restart

Any method of resuming play after it has been stopped

Restart position

A player's position at a restart is determined by the position of their feet or any part of their body which is touching the pitch



S

Sanction

Disciplinary action taken by the referees

Sending-off

Disciplinary action when a player is required to leave the pitch for the remainder of the match having committed a sending-off offence (indicated by a red card). A team official may also be sent off

Serious foul play

A tackle or challenge for the ball that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality: punishable with a sending-off (red card)

Serious injury

An injury that is judged to be bad enough that play must be stopped, but for which medical staff should swiftly remove the player from the pitch for treatment or assessment, if necessary, so that play may resume

Severe injury

An injury that is judged to be so serious that play must be stopped and it is necessary for medical staff to perform treatment or an assessment on the pitch before removing the injured player, such as in potential cases of concussion, broken bones or spine injuries

Signal

Physical indication from the referees or any match official; usually involves movement of the hand or arm, or use of the whistle

Simulation

An action which creates a wrong/false impression that something has occurred when it has not (see also "deceive"), committed by a player to gain an unfair advantage

Spirit of the game

The main/essential principles/ethos of futsal as a sport but also within a particular match

Suspend

To stop a match for a period of time with the intention of eventually restarting play, e.g. due to leaks on the pitch or severe injury

T

Tackle

A challenge for the ball with the foot (on the floor or in the air)

Team list

Official team document usually listing the players, substitutes and team officials

Team official

Any non-player listed on the official team list, e.g. coach, physiotherapist, doctor

Technical area

Defined area for the team officials and substitutes which includes seating

Timeout

A one-minute break requested by a team in each of the two periods

Two-minute numerical reduction

A situation when a team has its number of players reduced for two minutes of playing time after having a player sent off; the number of players may, in certain circumstances, be increased before the two minutes have elapsed if the opposing team scores a goal

U

Undue interference

Action/influence which is unnecessary

Unsporting behaviour

Unfair action/behaviour: punishable with a caution

V

Violent conduct

An action, which is not a challenge for the ball, which uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent or when a player deliberately strikes someone on the head or face unless the force used is negligible



REFEREE TERMS

Match official(s)

General term for person or persons responsible for controlling a futsal match on behalf of a football/futsal association and/or competition under whose jurisdiction the match is played

“On-pitch” match officials

Referee

The main match official, who operates on the pitch. Other match officials operate under the referee's control and direction. The referee is the final decision-maker

Second referee

The second match official who operates on the pitch. Other match officials operate under the referee's control and direction. The second referee is always under the referee's supervision

Other match officials

Competitions may appoint other match officials to assist the referees:

Third referee

- An assistant referee who particularly assists the referees with controlling the team officials and substitutes, recording match data such as accumulated fouls and making decisions

Reserve assistant referee

- An assistant referee who replaces a third referee or timekeeper who is unable to continue

Timekeeper

- A match official whose main duty is to control the playing time

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